

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COTONO 01770 071738Z

42

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 IGA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PRS-01

L-03 SPC-03 LS-01 TRSE-00 COME-00 DRC-01 /082 W

----- 066164

O P 071605Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5708

INFO AMEMAASSY NIAMEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COTONOU 1770

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, DM

SUBJECT: BOHICON-PARAKOU TELECOM LOAN

ABIDJAN FOR REDSO

COPY OF LETTER ADDRESSED TO REDSO DIRECTOR FROM MIN PTT DATED DECEMBER 5 RECEIVED TODAY AT EMBASSY. LETTER CONCERNS BOHICON-PARAKOU TELECOMMUNICATIONS LOAN. ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT REFER TO LETTER DRAFTED BY REDSO WHICH I SIGNED AND SENT ON NOVEMBER 30, BOURAIMA TOLD ME ON DECEMBER 4 THAT REPLY WOULD BE SENT BY MINISTER "WITHIN NEXT DAY OR SO." THUS, ASSUME THIS IS IT.

AM TRANSMITTING FRENCH TEXT OF LETTER FOR REDSO'S CONSIDERATION. AM PERPLEXED BY THEIR AGAIN REOPENING AT THIS LATE DATE QUESTION OF ALLEGED ADEQUACY OF LOAN TO FINANCE WHOLE LINE BOHICON-MALANVILLE WHILE NEATLY DODGING NEED TO MEET DECEMBER 12 DEADLINE IN SIGNING CONTRACT. NONETHELESS, BELIEVE WE SHOULD REITERATE OUR POSITION ON THIS POINT AND REEMPHASIZE NEED FOR SIGNING CONTRACT BY DECEMBER 12 WITH ENGINEERING FIRM. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT ENGINEERING FIRM WHEN CHOSEN WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE, INTER ALIA, FOR MAKING DETAILED COST ESTIMATE FOR CONSTRUCTION. THUS, CHOOSING ENGINEERING FIRM WOULD NOT COMMIT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COTONO 01770 071738Z

DAHOMAY TO SPENDING \$1.9 MILLION FOR BOHICON-PARIKOU SHOULD

CAREFUL ENGINEERING STUDY INDICATE THIS AMOUNT NOT NEEDED.
IF MY UNDERSTANDING CORRECT, PERHAPS THIS THOUGHT COULD BE WOVEN
INTO REPLY, WHICH SHOULD BE DELIVERED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO
PRECLUDE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WITHDRAWAL OF LOAN BEING PLACED ON
OUR DOORSTEP. STRONGLY URGE SCHOONOVER BRING REPLY DECEMBER-
10 ON FLIGHT RK 500, ARRIVING COTONOU 1020 HOURS. IF THIS POSSIBLE,
I WILL TRY TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH MIN PTT ON AFTERNOON OF DECEM-
BER 10. PLEASE SEND
URGENT REPLY SO THAT MEETING CAN BE REQUESTED.
TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

"VOUS AVEZ BEIN VOLU NOUS INFORMER, PAR UNE LETTRE EN DATE
DU 3 OCTOBRE 1973, DE VOTRE ACCEPTATION DE REPORTER JUSQU'AU
12 DECEMBRE 1973 LA DATE LIMITE A LAQUELLE L'OFFICE DES POSTES
ET TELECOMMUNICATIONS (O.P.T.) DEVRA AVOIR REMPLI CERTAINES
CONDITIONS AVANT DE BENEFICIER DES PREMIERS CREDITS RELATIFS A
L'EXECUTION DE L'ACCROD DE PRET CI-DESSUS REFERENCE. NOUS
VOUS EN REMERCIONS.

"LA RAISON ESSENTIELLE QUE L'O.P.T. A INVOGUEE A L'APPUI
DE SA REQUETE EST QUE LA LISISON COTONOU-MALANVILLE EST
UN MAILLON DU RESEAU PANAFRICAIN DE TELECOMMUNICATIONS POUR
LEQUEL LES CHEFS D'ETATS AFRICAINS ONT DEMANDE QU'IL SOIT
RECHERCHE UN FINANCEMENT GLOBAL, ET QU'IL CONVENAIT D'ATTENDRE
LE RESULTAT DES DEMARCHES ENTREPRISES DANS CE SENS PAR L'UNION
INTERNATIONALE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS (U.I.T.) AUPRES DES
INSTITUTIONS FINANCIERES INTERNATIONALES.

"CETTE ATTITUDE DE L'O.P.T. N'EST QUE LA SUITE LOGIQUE DE
LA REMARQUE DE FOND QUI A ETE FAITE LE 14 AVRIL 1972 PAR LES
INGENIEURS DAHOMEENS A VOS COLLABORATEURS SCHOONOVER ET
HOTVEDT AU COURS DE LA REUNION ORGANISEE PAR LE MINISTERE DES
POSTES ET TELECOMMUNICATIONS A COTONOU POUR EXAMINER LE
PROJET DE LIAISON BOHICON-MALANVILLE PRESENTE PAR L'U.I.T.,
A SAVOIR QUE LA PREOCCUPATION DU GOUVERNEMENT DE LA REPUBLIQUE
DU DAHOMEY EST LA REALISATOON DE LA TOTALITE DE LA LIAISON BOHICON-
MALANVILLE PAR FAISCEAU HERTZIEN, ET QUE SUR LA BASE DES PRIX
MONDIAUX ET DE L'ESTIMATION DE L'U.I.T., L'ENVELOPPE DE
1 900 000 DOLLARS CONSENTIS PAR L'A.I.D. POUR BOHICON-"-4-(97
7**85 ORATIQUEMENT POUR EXECUTER LE PROGRAMME BOHICON-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 COTONO 01770 071738Z

MALANVILLE.

"IL NE SEMBLE PAS QUE CETTE OPTION QUI S'INTEGRE PARFAITE-
MENT DANS LA CONCEPTION DUE GOUVERNEMENT MILITAIRE REVOLUTION-
NAIRE DU DAHOMEY QUANT AUX FRASTRUCTURES DE TELECOMMUNICA-
TIONS AIT BEAUCOUP RETENU VOTRE ATTENTION JUSQU'A CE JOUR,
MALGRE LES DIVERS ENTRETIENS QUE NOUS AVONS EUS A CE SUJET, AU
COURS DE CES DERNIERS MOPX, AVEC VOS COLLABORATEURS ET AVEC

L'AMBASSADE DES ETATS-UNIS AU DAHOMEY.

"IL EST POURTANT HAUTEMENT SOUHAITABLE QUE NOTRE PREOCCUPATION SOIT BIEN COMPRISE, SI VOUS VOULEZ DONNER A L'ACCORD DE PRET SIGNE LE 13 NOVEMBRE 1971 DES POSSIBILITES OBJECTIVES DE PASSER AU STADE D'EXECUTION.

"IL NOUS EST AGREABLE DE SAISIR L'OCCASION POUR REMERCIER DE NOUVEAU LES AUTORITES DE L'A.I.D. POUR L'INTERET GRANDISSANT QU'ELLES PORTENT AU DEVELOPPEMENT DE NOTRE PAYS, ET POUR VOUS CONFIRMER LE SOUHAIT DU GOUVERNEMENT MILITAIRE REVOLUTIONNAIRE DE CONSERVER LES CREDITS QUI SONT MIS A LA DISPOSITION DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU DAHOMEY PAR L'ACCORD DE PRET OBJET DE LA PRESENTE LETTRE."
MCNAMARA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973COTONO01770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731239/aaaabcbgo.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <28-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOHICON-PARAKOU TELECOM LOAN ABIDJAN FOR REDSO
TAGS: EAID, DM, US, REDSO
To: ABIDJAN STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005